and also to prevent their exploitation by the milk vendors in urban areas, a Scheme of rehabilitation of Gujjars was formulated by the Government of Uttar Pradesh with Ihe approval of the Gujjars themselves. Subsequently, a section of Gujjars protested against this rehabilitation and the matter was agitated before the Supreme Court of India also. However, the writ petition was dismissed.

In order to save the biodiversity of Rajaji National Park and to rehabilitate the Gujjars properly, an area of 80 ha. of Pathri forests has been earmarked. 512 houses with cattle sheds and feeding stalls have been built with amenities like school facilities, community hall etc. The Gujjars are being persuaded to move to the Pathri colony.

Ecological imbalance in Arunachal Pardcsh

2748. SHRI KAMA!. MORARKA: Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT- AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the age old Jhum cultivation is threatening to create a disastrous ecological imbalance in Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether any study has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what steps are proposed to be taken to restore the rich flora and fauna of the area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) Forest Survery of India has estimated, by the visual interpretation of Landsat imagery pertaining to the year 1984, that 8521 sq km of the forest area are affected by shifting cultivation in the state of Arunachal Pradesh. This constitutes about 10% of the total geographical area of the state. As in the case of other North-Eastern States, this traditional method of agriculture has adversely affected the regeneration status and productivity of the forest areas.

(d) State Government has been implementing various Jhum control programmes to wean away Jhumias from this practice and to settle them in permanent agriculture and other economically attractive activities. Under one such innovative scheme entitled 'Apna Van', the State Forest Department is providing limited subsidy to the fanners for tree planting activities on private/degraded Jhum lands.

Indian forest service officers serving in Bihar

2749. SHRI RAM RATAN RAM : Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of officers belonging to Indian Forest Service serving in Bihar Stale:

(b) the number of Scheduled Casle Officers therein:

(c) the number of officers sent to Foreign studies/Foreign assignments:

(d) the number of officers belonging to Scheduled Castes sent to Foreign Studies/ Foreign assignment; and

(e) if not. the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) (a) 145:

(b) 19;

(c) 04 (1992-93):

(<l) Nil:

(e) No eligible Scheduled Caste Officer was available in the State Cadre in the Zone of consideration for training/foreign assignment abroad.

Ganga Action Plan

2750. SHRI JAGMOHAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) what were the main objectives/targets which the Ganga Action Plan launched in June, 1986 sought to achieve;

(b) whether those objectives/targets have been achieved; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor and how the various bottlenecks and difficulties that have arisen vis-a-vis the State Governments and other implementation agencies are intended to be resolved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) The Ganga Action Plan (GAP) was launched in 1986 for abatement of pollution of the river Ganga, and to improve its water quality to bathing standards. To achieve the same, 261 schemes for interception and diversion of domestic sewage, sewage treatment, low cost sanitation,

electric crematoria, river front facilities and others were taken up in 25 class I towns situated along the Ganga in UP, Bihar & West Bengal. It was targetted to intercept, divert and treat 873 mld wastewater out of an estimated 1340 mld wastewater being generated from these towns. 208 schemes have been completed so far which have resulted in interception and diversion of 543 mld of wastewater. There has been an improvement in the water quality (as indicated by reduced BOD and increased DO) of the river stretches along most of the towns when? GAP works have been completed. The full impact of the works under GAP will however, be visible on completion of all schemes.

Financial Aid to Centre for Science and Environment

2751. SHRI JAGMOHAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Centre for Science and Environment is getting substantial financial aid from the ministry of Environment and from the Ministry of Rural Development besides the aid from foreign agencies like the Ford Organisation, Oxfam (US and UK), the SIDA, Dutch Government and the UNDP:

(b) if so, what is the quantum of financial aid available to the Centre from different agencies and whether'there is any representative of Government on the governing body of the Centre; and

(c) whether Government are aware of the cases of recent labour unrest in the Centre and whether Government propose to take some measures, direct or indirect for ensuring smooth and healthy functioning of the Centre ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b) The Ministry does not provide any substantial financial aid to the Centre for Science and Environment on a regular basis. We are not aware of any financial assistance by the Ministry of Rural Development or by foreign agencies to this organisation. The ministry is not represented on the governing body of the Centre.

(c) Newspaper reports have appeared but their veracity and details are not kown.

लकड़ी का अवैध व्यापार

2752. श्री शिवप्रसाद चनपुरिया : क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) रानी अवंतीबाई सागर (बरगी) के डूब क्षेत्र में कीमती इमारती लकड़ी और ईंधन की लकड़ी के वृक्षों की संख्या कितनी है, जिनकी वहाँ से निकासी नहीं की जा सकी ;

(ख) इन वृक्षों का वर्तमान बाजार मूल्य क्या है ;

(ग) क्या विभाग डूब क्षेत्र के वृक्षों को काटकर लकड़ी की निकासी की योजना को कार्यान्वित कर रहा है ; यदि हां, तो निकासी कब तक पूरी हो जायेगी ;

(घ) क्या यह सच है कि डूब क्षेत्र की लकड़ी की निकासी के नाम पर कीमती लकड़ी की अवैध रूप से निकासी का कार्य अभी भी बेरोक-टोक चल रहा है ; और

(ङ) लकड़ी की इस अवैध निकासी को रोकने के लिये विभाग द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमल नाथ) : (क) से (घ) रानी अवंतीबाई सागर (बरगी) के तहत डूबने वाले वन क्षेत्रों के उपयोग के लिए वन (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1980 के अधीन कोई प्रस्ताव प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है ।

(ङ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Environmental Clearance for setting up Industrial Project

2753. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has issued any Notification so far to spell out the jurisdiction of State Governments and the Centre for giving environmental clearance for setting up, expansion and modernisation of industrial projects; as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 26-7-93; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, listing/ indicating what type of projects would be dealt with at the State Level and which categories required to be cleared by the Central Government and whether any guidelines issued for projects proposed to be located within five km Of boundary of reserve or protected forests or designated ecologically sensitive areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) The Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests issued a draft notification on 29th January, 1992 and a modified version again on 28th January, 1993, indicating Government's intention to make Environmental Impact Assessment statutory